

Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - June 7, 2001

- *In the West*, hot weather persists in the *Southwest* and is spreading back into *California*, increasing irrigation and electrical demands. In the *Northwest*, warm conditions favor crop development, although soil moisture shortages are beginning to stress some pastures and dryland small grains.
- *On the Plains*, warm, mostly dry weather is promoting crop development and fieldwork, including winter wheat harvesting from *Oklahoma southward*.
- *In the Corn Belt*, drier weather favors a gradual return to soybean and final corn planting. Cool weather continues to slow summer crop emergence and development in the *northern Corn Belt*, where today's high temperatures are forecast to range from 65 to 75 degrees F.
- *In the South*, Tropical Depression Allison remains nearly stationary just north of *Lufkin*, *Texas*. Locally heavy rainfall is falling throughout the region, especially from *eastern Texas to the southern Appalachians*, generally benefiting summer crops but slowing fieldwork and causing localized flooding. Despite recent and continuing showers, pockets of unfavorably dryness persist in the *southern Atlantic region*.

<u>Outlook</u>: The remnants of Tropical Storm Allison are forecast to drift slowly southward or eastward and contribute to heavy rainfall across the *South* through week's end. Meanwhile, drier weather is forecast across the *Plains and Corn Belt*, although showers may return to the latter region during the weekend. Hot, dry weather will persist into next week across *California*, *the Great Basin*, *and the Southwest*. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for June 12-16 calls for hot weather to expand onto the *central and southern Plains*, while belownormal temperatures are forecast in the *Northwest* and along much of the *Atlantic Seaboard*. Wet weather is forecast in the *north-central U.S.*, while near-normal precipitation is expected elsewhere.

Contact: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)